PRAYER
**Talk 2: Why not pray?**

**INTRODUCTION**

Simple

*Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.*

Difficult

**1. We are naturalists**

 *Prov. 21:1   The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD;*

 *he directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases.*

**2. We are fatalists**

*Nehemiah 2:1-5*

**3. We feel inadequate**

*Matthew 6:5 “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men.”*

*Matthew 6:7 “And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. “*

**4.We don’t know what to pray**

*Phil 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

 *James 4:2 You do not have, because you do not ask God.*

 *1 Peter 5: 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.*

**5. We are self-sufficient**

*2 Cor 11: 27 I have laboured and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. 28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?*

**6. We are lazy**

*Col. 4:3 And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.*

*1Th. 5:17 pray continually*

*2Th. 3:1 Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured, just as it was with you.*

**7. We think we are too sinful**

*Isaiah. 1:15-16    When you spread out your hands in prayer,
 I will hide my eyes from you;
 even if you offer many prayers,
 I will not listen.
 Your hands are full of blood;
 wash and make yourselves clean.
 Take your evil deeds
 out of my sight!*

*Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus…..*